Finding aid to the J.C. Knowles Photograph Collection PhC.182

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Summary Information

Repository State Archives of North Carolina

Creator Wharton and Tyree Studios (Raleigh, N.C.).

Title J.C. Knowles Photograph Collection

Date circa 1900 - circa 1919

Extent 10.0 boxes (includes 7 fibredex boxes, 2 oversize boxes, 1 flat box)

Language English

Abstract Collection of 8"x10" and 11"x14" glass plate negatives dating from

around 1900 through the later 1910's, attributed to the Wharton & Tyree

Studio and Tyree Studio, Raleigh, NC.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item] PhC.182, J.C. Knowles Photograph Collection, State Archives of North Carolina, Raleigh, NC, USA.

Biographical/Historical note

Cyrus P. Wharton (1852-1929) operated one of the best-equipped and largest photography studios in North Carolina beginning with Wharton's Gallery on Fayetteville Street in downtown Raleigh in 1886. In 1905 he partnered with Manly W. Tyree (1877-1916) and operated as the Wharton & Tyree Studio. Wharton appears to have retired in 1911, and Tyree continued on alone as the Tyree Studio until his death.

Scope and Contents note

Collection of 8"x10" and 11"x14" glass plate negatives dating from around 1900 through the later 1910's, attributed to the Wharton & Tyree Studio and Tyree Studio, Raleigh, NC. Based on the age of the negatives, where they were found initially, and a notation on one of the plates, it is highly probable that all of them came from Wharton's Gallery, 1886-1905, the Wharton & Tyree Studio, 1905-1912, and the Tyree Studio, 1912-1916, Raleigh, NC. The photographs in this collection are diverse and demonstrate the wide breadth of skill and artistry of the photographer(s). There are gorgeous studio portraits of brides, women resplendent in cocktail gowns and formal wear, beautiful portraits of costumed women, distinguished men and families. There are outside-the-studio portraits of families, groups, local Raleigh area college and school groups, sports teams, and individuals as well as photos of the built environment of Raleigh and several other places, some of them unknown. There are also some rare candid-type shots of people working and interiors of local businesses. Unfortunately, very few of the photos are described and few of the people depicted named.

Collection Arrangement

Collection is arranged in eleven series based on topics. Collection is stored in seven fiberdex boxes, which contain 8"x10" negatives; two oversized fiberdex boxes, which house 11"x14" negatives; and one flat box (temporarily in the Conservation Lab as of June 2013 because five of the original glass plates are broken and preservation enclosures are being built there). Collection has been scanned in its entirety and is available online via the State Archives of North Carolina flickr site.

Organization of the Collection

This collection is organized into series:

- 1, Studio Portraits
- 2, Non-Studio Portraits
- 3, Buildings
- 4, North Carolina State University (NC A&M College)
- 5, Wake Forest College
- 6, Peace College
- 7, St. Mary's School
- 8, Meredith College
- 9, Local Girls' College Groups
- 10, Cary Farm Life School Groups, Cary, NC
- 11. Miscellaneous

Administrative Information

Publication Information

State Archives of North Carolina

Access to Collection

Available for research.

Access Restrictions

Available for research.

Collection has been scanned in its entirety and is available online via the State Archives of North Carolina flickr site http://www.flickr.com/photos/north-carolina-state-archives/sets/72157633104801098/.

Acquisitions Information

Donated in about 1967 by J. C. Knowles, a local Raleigh area antiques dealer and estate sale manager. Mr. Knowles obtained the negatives from a Mr. Leavister sometime before 1967. While purchasing a lamp from Leavister, who was in the business of salvaging furnishings and architectural details from demolished homes in downtown Raleigh, Knowles saw several boxes of old glass negatives and asked Leavister what he was going to do with them. He answered that he had gotten them on one of his

demolition sites and said Knowles could have them if he wanted them. Knowles said he wanted them and took them with him when he bought the lamp. After he had the negatives for a while, he decided to give them to the Museum of History. The collection was eventually transferred to the State Archives.

Processing Information note

Processed by Karl Larson, 2013;

Finding Aid by Karl Larson and Kim Andersen, June 2013;

Encoded by Aaron Cusick, June 2014;

Collection Inventory

1 Studio Portraits	
	Box
PhC_182_01_01 Family portrait, parents with three children	1
PhC_182_01_02 WWI soldier in uniform	1
PhC_182_01_03 Family Portrait	1
PhC_182_01_04 Group of six men	1
PhC_182_01_05 Middle aged man	1
PhC_182_01_06 Bride	1
PhC_182_01_07 Older gentleman	1
PhC_182_01_08 Middle aged man	1
PhC_182_01_09 Middle aged man	1
PhC_182_01_10 Young lady in profile	1
PhC_182_01_11 Young lady	1

PhC_182_01_12 Young Lady	1
PhC_182_01_13 Young lady	1
PhC_182_01_14 Middle aged man	1
PhC_182_01_15 Young lady and feather fan	1
PhC_182_01_16 Lady in beaded dress	1
PhC_182_01_17 Young lady and bouquet of roses	1
PhC_182_01_18 Bride with bouquet	2
PhC_182_01_19 Young lady in profile	2
PhC_182_01_20 Older lady	2
PhC_182_01_21 Young lady with hair down	2
PhC_182_01_22 Lady with fur piece	2
PhC_182_01_23 Young lady	2
PhC_182_01_24 Young lady	2
PhC_182_01_25 Young lady	2

PhC_182_01_26 Family portrait, parents with two children	2
PhC_182_01_27 Older gentleman	2
PhC_182_01_28 Middle aged man	2
	Oversize
PhC_182_01_29 Lady in gown and hat	1
PhC_182_01_30 Young lady on chaise lounge	1
PhC_182_01_31 Middle aged man	1
PhC_182_01_32 Young lady gazing out window	1
PhC_182_01_33 Young lady	1
PhC_182_01_34 Baby girl	1
	Flatbox
PhC_182_01_35 Young lady	1
PhC_182_01_36 Young lady in gown and hat	1
2 Non-Studio Portraits	
	Roy

PhC_182_02_01 Shaw University group - maybe faculty - on steps of Estes Hall, Raleigh, NC	2
PhC_182_02_02 Family group on front steps of residence	2
PhC_182_02_03 Large group of African-American women working in a large garden	2
PhC_182_02_04 Group of men painting a house	2
PhC_182_02_05 Boys baseball team, Bingham School, Mebane, NC	2
PhC_182_02_06 Young men's football team	3
PhC_182_02_07 Group of women working in a garden	3
PhC_182_02_08 Group of adults posed on a front porch	3
PhC_182_02_09 Family group posed in yard with dog	3
	Flatbox
PhC_182_02_10 Bridal portrait	1
3 Buildings	
	Box
PhC_182_03_01 Unidentified house with wooded lot	3

PhC_182_03_02 Unidentified commercial building, Waldo Drug Company, location unknown, c.1900-1910's. This could be the Waldo Drug Co. in Cary, NC, listed in this 1915 Raleigh News and Observer 'North Carolina Yearbook and Business Directory' - http://archive.org/stream/northcarolinayea1915rale#page/458/mode/2up.	3
PhC_182_03_03 Unidentified house	3
PhC_182_03_04 House, 109 North Boylan, Raleigh, NC, family on porch and in yard	3
PhC_182_03_05 Dormitory Cottage, Methodist Orphanage, Wade Avenue, Raleigh, NC	3
PhC_182_03_06 Dormitory Cottage, Methodist Orphanage, Wade Avenue, Raleigh, NC	3
PhC_182_03_07 Ashley Horne and Son Fertilizer Works, Clayton, NC	3
PhC_182_03_08 Elmwood, 16 North Boylan, Raleigh, NC	3
PhC_182_03_09 Workmen painting a Wake County school building	3
PhC_182_03_10 Railroad passenger station, Lakeview, NC	3
PhC_182_03_11 State Capitol Building and Worth Bagley Monument, Raleigh, NC	3
PhC_182_03_12 Briggs Hardware, Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC	3
	Oversize
PhC_182_03_13 Resort hotel, unknown location	1

4 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College)	
	Box
PhC_182_04_01 Holladay Hall, North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) campus, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_04_02 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) football practice, Riddick Field, NC State campus, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_04_03 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) football practice, Riddick Field, NC State campus, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_04_04 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) basketball team, 1915, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_04_05 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) track team, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_04_06 North Carolina State University (NC A&M College) basketball team, 1916, Raleigh, NC	4
5 Wake Forest College	
	Box
PhC_182_05_01 Wake Forest College, Alumni Building, Wake Forest, NC	4
PhC_182_05_02 Three young men posed on steps of the Alumni Building, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, NC	4

PhC_182_05_03 Group of young men posed on steps of the Alumni Building, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, NC	4
PhC_182_05_04 Wake Forest College men's baseball team	4
PhC_182_05_05 Group of students posed on steps of the Alumni Building, Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, NC	4
6 Peace College	
	Box
PhC_182_06_01 Group of students and children in a pageant, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_06_02 Group of students posed in front of Main Building, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_06_03 Group of students and children in front of Main Building, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_06_04 Group of student actors, Peace College Chapel, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_06_05 Group of students in dorm room with pennant, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4
PhC_182_06_06 Group of students and matron/house mother reading, Peace College, Raleigh, NC	4

7 St. Mary's School	
	Box
PhC_182_07_01 Chapel, Saint Mary's School, Raleigh, NC	5
PhC_182_07_02 Main Building, Smedes Hall, Saint Mary's School, Raleigh, NC	5
PhC_182_07_03 West Rock, dormitory, Saint Mary's School, Raleigh, NC	5
PhC_182_07_04 Christmas party in gymnasium, Saint Mary's School, Raleigh, NC	5
8 Meredith College	
	Box
PhC_182_08_01 Tennis Club, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1916. Identified in the 1916 "Oak Leaves" Vol. 13 MCMXVI; group includes Elsie Riddick, Helen Byrd Aydlett, Mary Farrell, Louise Holding, Annie Laurie Baucom, French Haynes, Essie Daniels, May Carter, Annie Lowry, Vivian McNeil, Rosa Wishart, Carrie Lowry, Pearl Faulkner, Ethel English, Kate Copple, Elizabeth Chapin, Lillian Haislip, and Madeline Higgs.	Box 5
the 1916 "Oak Leaves" Vol. 13 MCMXVI; group includes Elsie Riddick, Helen Byrd Aydlett, Mary Farrell, Louise Holding, Annie Laurie Baucom, French Haynes, Essie Daniels, May Carter, Annie Lowry, Vivian McNeil, Rosa Wishart, Carrie Lowry, Pearl Faulkner, Ethel English, Kate Copple, Elizabeth Chapin, Lillian Haislip, and Madeline	

Clata Edwards, Ethel Anglish, Nell Fowler, Pearl Faulkner, Essie Martin, Nona Moore, and Mae Sprinkle.

PhC_182_08_04 Kat Klub, aka Katydids, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1916. Identified in the 1916 "Oak Leaves" Vol. 13 MCMXVI; group includes Kate Jessup, Kate Copple, Kate Murray, Kate Beckwith, Kathleen Moss, Kathleen Covington, Kate Matthews, and Katherine (the maid, who is listed as the club "mascot" in the 1916 Oak Leaves college yearbook.	5
PhC_182_08_05 Girls in trunks, identified in the 1916 "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 13 MCMXVI, as the "Sensless Souls: What fools these mortals be!" Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1916	5
PhC_182_08_06 Identified in the 1916 "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 13 MCMXVI, as the "Leap Year Club" with motto "Grasp all opportunities." Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1916.	5
PhC_182_08_07 Group of Meredith College girls in unidentified location, 1917. Same image appears in the Meredith College 1917 "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 14 MCMXVII.	5
PhC_182_08_08 Ukulele Club, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1919. Same image appears in the Meredith College "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 16 MCMXIX; group includes Gladys Wall, Lennie Elmore, Clara Wall, and Mae Beasley.	5
PhC_182_08_09 Senior Ruggles Club, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1919. Same image appears in the Meredith College "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 16 MCMXIX, group includes Isabelle Poteat (Ma Ruggles), Ruth Hubbel (Pa Ruggles' Picture), Elsie Riddick (Sarah Maude), Mary Claire Peterson (Peter), Madeline Higgs (Kitty), Annie Gibson (Cornelius), Kathleen Covington (Susan), Elsie Brantley (Sophia), Inez Watkins (Sallie), Lena Bullard (Larry), French Haynes (Carol Byrd), and Averie Martin (The Maid).	5

PhC_182_08_10 Scene from Astro Operetta "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1919. Same image appears in the Meredith College "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 16 MCMXIX.	5
PhC_182_08_11 Scene from Phi Play "She Stoops To Conquer," Meredith College, Raleigh, NC, 1919. Same image appears in the Meredith College "Oak Leaves" yearbook, Vol. 16 MCMXIX.	5
9 Local Girls' College Groups	
	Box
PhC_182_09_01 Wooded lot, tennis, probably Peace College, Raleigh, NC	5
PhC_182_09_02 Group of students, probably Peace College, Raleigh, NC	5
PhC_182_09_03 Girls by frame building, probably Meredith College or Peace College, Raleigh, NC	6
PhC_182_09_04 Dorm room, probably Meredith College or Peace College, Raleigh, NC	6
PhC_182_09_05 Girls' basketball teach "C.H.S '20" probably 1920, unknown location	6
PhC_182_09_06 Group of young women in costume for a spring pageant, maybe Meredith College or Peace College, Raleigh, NC	6
10 Cary Farm Life School Groups, Cary, NC	

Box

PhC_182_10_01 School or class photo, female students, front steps of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_02 Teen aged boys and girls, front steps of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_03 Teen aged boys and girls, front steps of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_04 Teen aged boys, front steps of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_05 Male students with banner, Calhoun Literary Society, the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_06 Teen aged boys and girls, front steps of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920	6
PhC_182_10_07 Elementary school children in front of the Cary Farm Life School, Cary, NC, c.1910-1920. Copy also in Cooper Collection, PhC.41.186. All these children received dental treatment from a North Carolina traveling dentist through the Cary farm Life School.	6
11 Miscellaneous	
	Box
PhC_182_11_01 Ticket dispenser	6

PhC_182_11_02 Silver trophy cup with inscription	6
PhC_182_11_03 Unidentified interior with electrical merchandise	6
PhC_182_11_04 Unidentified interior, stage with actors	6
PhC_182_11_05 Fresh grave site decorated with flowers	6
PhC_182_11_06 Unidentified church interior	6
PhC_182_11_07 Bathroom interior, claw foot tub and elaborate water heater	6
PhC_182_11_08 Unidentified baby in casket	6
PhC_182_11_09 Honors plaque with badges attached	6
PhC_182_11_10 Unidentified office interior	6
PhC_182_11_11 Display of musical instruments	6
PhC_182_11_12 Dining hall interior, unidentified location	6
PhC_182_11_13 Interior, Olivia Raney Library, Raleigh, NC	6
PhC_182_11_14 Bust of M. W. Ransom in State Capitol rotunda, Raleigh, NC	6
	Oversize

PhC_182_11_15 Mission or monastery, unknown location	1
PhC_182_11_16 Mission or monastery, unknown location	1
PhC_182_11_17 Mission or monastery, unknown location	1
PhC_182_11_18 Mission or monastery, unknown location	1
PhC_182_11_19 Mission or monastery, unknown location	1
PhC_182_11_20 Composite portrait of a group of men	2
PhC_182_11_21 Composite portrait of the North Carolina Supreme Court	2
PhC_182_11_22 Copy of an engraving of a John White painting	2
	Flatbox
PhC_182_11_23 J. L. Quinn Florist store showroom	1
PhC_182_11_24 North Carolina State Senate 1915	1